

Message Text

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21

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-01 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

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R 241545Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3778

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, SW

SUBJECT: SWEDISH TARIFF DUTY ON WINES

REF: A. STATE 6428; B. STOCKHOLM A-292, SEPT. 17, 74

1. MFA (L. STALBERG OF GATT SENPOL RESPONDED BY LETTER OF JANUARY 23, 1975, TO REQUEST OF ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING STATUS OF TREATMENT OF WINE IMPORTS FROM EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES AND SWEDISH JUSTIFICATION FOR NOT GRANTING MFN TREATMENT TO U.S.WINES. TEXT FOLLOWS:

A. WITH REFERENCE TO YOUR LETTER OF JANUARY 14, 1975, CONCERNING DUTY-FREE TREATMENT OF WINE FROM EEC COUNTRIES UNDER BTN 22.05.210 AND BTN 22.05.290, I WISH TO GIVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION.

B. THESE MEASURES WERE TAKEN AS A RESULT OF AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BETWEEN SWEDEN AND THE EEC DATED JULY 21, 1972, AND REPRESENT AN APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 15 OF THE AGREEMENT WITH THE EEC WHICH STATES THE PARTIES' READINESS TO FOSTER THE HARMONIOUS DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE

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IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. THE CONCESSIONS ARE THUS PART

OF THE FREE-TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN SWEDEN AND THE EEC AND COVERED BY THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE XXIV OF THE GATT.

2. IN RESPONSE TO FURTHER QUESTIONS, STALBERG CONCEDED THERE HAVE BEEN DUCUSSIONS IN GATT ON WHETHER AGREEMENTS SIGNED BY NORDIC COUNTRIES WITH THE EC MET GATT ARTICLE XXIV PROVISIONS FOR A FREE-TRADE AREA. FURTHER, HE CONCURRED THAT EC HAD MADE COMPENSATIONS UNDER ARTICLE XXIV-6 TO USG ON UK AND DANISH ENTRY INTO EC CUSTOM UNION. IN ANY CASE, GOS POSITION IS THAT THE AGREEMENT WITH EC MEETS ARTICLE XXIV PROVISIONS AND CONCESSIONS GRANTED EC NEED NOT BE EXTENDED TO U. S. WINES ON MFN BASIS.

3. REFTEL STATES THAT WINE WITH ALCOHOLIC CONTENT NOT EXCEEDING 14 PERCENT IS GRANTED DUTY-FREE ENTRY FROM EC COUNTRIES, BUT THAT THIS WAS NOT IN SWEDISH-EC AGREEMENT. WE HAVE CONFIRMED THAT BTW 22.05.210 AND 22.05.290 ARE INCLUDED IN SWEDISH AGREEMENT (EXCHANGE OF LETTERS) WITH EC. WINE WITH ALCOHOLIC CONTENT OF MORE THAN 14PERCENT IS ALSO INCLUDED IN EC AGREEMENT AND IS GRANTED DUTY-FREE ENTRY. MOREOVER, SWEDEN UNILATERALLY GRANTED DUTY-FREE TREATMENT FOR WINES TO "RUMP EFTA" COUNTRIES AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 1973.

4. IN ADDITION TO DISCRIMIKTORY TREATMENT OF U.S. WINES. U.S. PRODUCERS INTERESTED IN SELLING IN SWEDISH MARKET MUST OBTAIN AGREEMENT FROM VIN- OCH SPRITSCENTRALEN, A NATIONAL MONOPOLY (SEE REF. B)
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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